

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
FOR A *FREE EUROPE*



weapon

***in the struggle
for freedom***

WHY?

The National Committee

- *In Communist Hungary the State always comes first. A parish priest committed the "unthinkable crime" of telling the local peasants to provide for their families' rations before meeting the obligatory State delivery quotas. He was sentenced to 19 months hard labor and a heavy fine.*
- *A 25 year old law student named Ivan Pluhar escaped last fall from Czechoslovakia's notorious Jachymov uranium mines. His story of brutality and torture with "electric slippers," the "steel head-band" and worse, depicts a hell on earth.*
- *The Boy Scouts in Poland are told to honor Pavlik Morozov as a "Soviet hero." Why? Because Morozov denounced his parents to the secret police for hiding grain. They were arrested and deported.*
- *On July 20, 1951, a Hungarian mother and her 4 year old son, Karoly, reported for a medical check-up at the Rakosi State Kindergarten. On arrival, she was told that she had been selected as a "volunteer" for a labor battalion and that she would have to "transfer" her son to State care. She was then given 3000 forints (about \$60) and told to sign a receipt "renouncing all rights" to her child. A few weeks later she threw herself before an oncoming train.*

These are true examples of what Communism in practice means. They provide the most eloquent reason for the formation of the National Committee for a Free Europe.

The Committee began work in 1949, when a group of private citizens joined together for positive action against Soviet enslavement. It concentrates its efforts on the 100 million Central and Eastern Europeans

today living under inhuman conditions of force and fear. This tyranny, imposed by Soviet Russia in flagrant violation of her guarantees, precludes the enduring world peace desired by free men everywhere.

A Program of Action

The Committee seeks:

To pierce the Iron Curtain with messages of moral and practical value through the facilities of Radio Free Europe, thus taking the fight to the enemy's camp.

To build for the future by educating young refugees from Communism and to preserve the cultural heritage of the past which the enemy seeks to destroy.

To develop political unity and a dynamic platform of aims and principles among the exile groups in the U.S.

To assemble, analyze and distribute knowledge about current conditions in the captive area.

To create active public support, both moral and material, for these activities.

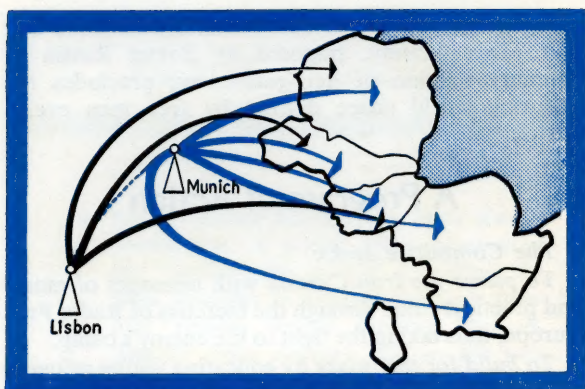
The Record to Date



1. RADIO FREE EUROPE

Radio Free Europe is a forceful weapon in the battle for men's minds. It shatters the isolation which the Kremlin seeks to impose on the people of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Albania, Bulgaria, and Romania. As a private station, it hits hard. Over RFE, exiles from the prisoner states speak directly to their countrymen behind the Iron Curtain.

RFE is in direct competition with the domestic Communist stations in its target countries. In three years RFE's program schedule has grown from 10 hours to 2500 hours weekly. 26 short and medium wave transmitters have been erected in Western Germany and Portugal. By using specially designed directional antennas, RFE is able to put signals of over 1,000,000 watts into each of the Satellite countries. Further, to insure being heard, RFE daily masses all its trans-



mitters to each country for half hour periods. This saturation broadcasting is almost impossible to jam.

What does Radio Free Europe say? Through exile voices RFE uses information, exposure and ridicule to undermine the enemy's morale and authority. It identifies police informers and denounces brutality. It spikes Red propaganda and spreads news the Soviets would rather have suppressed.

RFE does more. Through cultural, religious and educational programs it helps meet the spiritual and intellectual needs of its listeners. Through broadcasts to youth it stimulates their moral resistance to the poisons of Communism.

The Communists, revealing their fear and vulnerability to the truth, react violently to RFE with noisy jamming and angry refutations. They will be hit still harder as RFE's "Freedom Network" is extended.

2. INTELLECTUAL COOPERATION

While the Communists press to destroy the native cultures of the captive countries, the Division of Intellectual Cooperation nourishes these values in the free world.

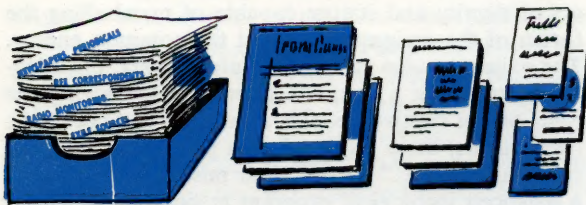
The Free Europe University in Exile is a dynamic part of this effort. FEUE provides 200 carefully selected young refugees with board, lodging, and special seminars in their own tongues. It also enables them to attend the famous French University of Strasbourg. Over 100 others in Western Europe and the United States receive scholarships for university study. This project of students building their own futures, and the futures of their nations, is feared by the Communists and respected throughout the free world.

In the Mid-European Studies Center, the intellectual resources of the exiles are joined to American schol-



arship to analyze significant economic, political, and social developments behind the Iron Curtain. Courses growing out of this program are conducted with the joint sponsorship of American universities. In cooperation with the Library of Congress in Washington, current records of Communist publications and studies of the evolution of Communist law are maintained. MESC findings appear as books or in a weekly series of monographs.

3. FREE EUROPE PRESS



Free Europe Press is charged with the collection and distribution of knowledge about current conditions in the Iron Curtain area through the medium of the printed word.

Information is derived from five primary sources: Communist newspapers and periodicals, refugee interviews, monitoring of Satellite radio stations, books and publications, and reports received from exile experts. The FEP files contain over a quarter of a million items of information from these sources.

Vital to the Committee's internal operations, this information also reaches the American public through press and radio. A monthly magazine, NEWS FROM BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN, is widely distributed to universities, libraries, information media and other organizations. Eleven foreign language magazines are sent to exile groups in 52 countries, and over 200

research studies and pamphlets on Communism have been made available.

In July 1953, under the sponsorship of Crusade for Freedom, this Division launched thousands of balloons borne over Czechoslovakia via the "Winds of Freedom." The balloons contained twelve million messages denouncing the Communists' oppressive currency reform and telling the captive people of the East German uprisings and the Beria purge.

4. EXILE RELATIONS

Close association with the political and intellectual leaders among the exiles from the Iron Curtain countries is fundamental to the Committee's efforts. These men stand as symbols of hope and encouragement to their enslaved countrymen. Cooperation with them is the prime task of the Division of Exile Relations, seeking to promote political unity within various exile organizations and, above all, to help them develop a dynamic, progressive platform of aims and principles. In Europe, through the Free Europe Citizen's Service, this Division reinforces the national spirit and morale of refugees and escapees.

To advance this effort National Councils or Committees have been formed, composed of political leaders of dignity and stature capable of marshalling the forces of the emigration against the common enemy. The exiles are also grouped in international organizations expressing a common interest. Recognizing the right of the captive peoples ultimately to select their own leaders, these groups do not purport to be "governments in exile." Rather, their mission is to develop a balanced ideological program to help the Committee combat Communism.

International congresses and ceremonies have been organized to develop constructive ideas and to promote activity on behalf of the captive countries through the United Nations and other organs of world public opinion.



The Crusade for Freedom



Through the Crusade for Freedom, organized in 1950 by General Lucius D. Clay and now led by Henry Ford II, the American public actively participates in the Committee's work. In two years 25,000-000 Americans have given several million dollars to help set up and expand Radio Free Europe's facilities.

In 1950 the Crusade installed in Berlin the famed *Freedom Bell*, symbol of the Committee's efforts to restore liberty to the oppressed. The dedication of the Freedom Bell was witnessed by 400,000 Berliners, 100,000 of whom risked the trip from the Soviet sector. At the end of each RFE program four notes of the bell are heard, with the words: "That was the Freedom Bell to remind you that this is Radio Free Europe."

This year the American Heritage Foundation has undertaken the sponsorship of Crusade for Freedom. Since its inception in 1947, the Foundation, a non-profit educational organization, has been dedicated to encouragement of active public participation in preserving our liberties. It sponsored the famous "Freedom Train" tours of the nation and subsequently, in 1947-1949, conducted two campaigns to urge every citizen to vote.

The Crusade for Freedom's annual fund-raising drive gives all citizens the opportunity to contribute to the Committee's fight against Communist tyranny. No American can afford to neglect this effort. Freedom is indivisible and its preservation our greatest mission.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR A FREE EUROPE, INC.

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(As of January 1, 1954)

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
"Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection."



A collaboration among the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities,
University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Communication Arts,
and Wisconsin Historical Society.

Supported by a Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant from
the National Endowment for the Humanities



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